

12 July 79

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[redacted]

Attached is a copy of the reply that I received from [redacted] in response to my query re the SO Information Report caper, affair, or whatever. I have ascertained that this reply was discussed with the Director and Deputy Director of OCR and that both concurred. Also attached, as background, is a copy of my 2 July note to you (with attachments) on the same subject.

It's hard to disagree with OCR. When the classified library chief agreed to try to restrict dissemination of the reports it was in the belief that something would be done about the problem without too much delay. As it turns out, we expected too much for too long a time, from too many people, including the Records Center and [redacted] shop.

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I strongly urge that we set about without delay to change the stamp on individual documents. Regardless of what roadblocks we build, as long as each document says that it is unclassified, some will be released.

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cc: [redacted]

5 July 1979

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

Current Reporting Group

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FROM

[REDACTED]  
NFAC Freedom of Information Officer

SUBJECT : CRG OCR/DSB Arrangement re the Handling  
of Requests for SO Reports

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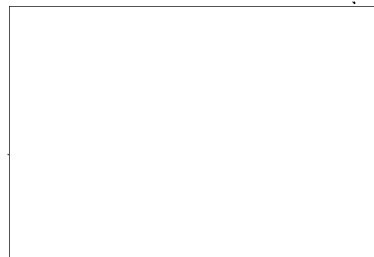
I read your Log Note and note to [REDACTED] dated  
December 1978 regarding subject arrangement. I find the  
arrangement to be totally unacceptable and am somewhat  
surprised that [REDACTED] would have agreed to such a potentially  
dangerous and, over the long haul, unworkable procedure.

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Please notify CRG and the DDO that the 1 December 1978  
arrangement between you and OCR/DSB for handling requests for  
SO reports is no longer valid.

You and I know there is really only one solution to the  
problem and I am surprised that those directly concerned are  
reluctant to take the necessary action. It is terribly  
unfair to depend on clericals in the OCR library to solve a  
problem they didn't create.

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2 Jul 79

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[ ]

Re the attached, which overstates the problem somewhat, but nonetheless does emphasize that a problem exists. SO reports are not "being passed out by the library" in the sense implied in the attached. Also, it is the CRD and not the NFAC computer that "shows them declassified." \*

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Also attached are copies of my 1 Dec 78 Log Note and my 1 Dec 78 note to [ ] then Document Services Branch/OCR chief. As you can see a lot of loopholes were believed plugged to preclude release of any of the SO reports. Apparently, everything fell through the cracks, including [ ] failure to exclude SO reports from the printouts furnished to OCR.

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I talked with [ ] today and asked him to make sure that the SO reports are excluded. I also sent [ ] copies of my log note and note to [ ] and asked him to look into it.

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However, over a period of time all of this will again prove to be fruitless. If anyone is to blame then we in CRD must shoulder it and no one else. It is we who declassified the reports, it is we who entered the declassifications into DARE, it is we who notified NARS of our actions, and it is we who have done little about it for the past seven months.

The problem of inadvertent release will exist as long as there are some 35,000 SO reports with a stamp on them saying they are declassified. Personnel changes and changes in mission all have a part in this as well as the fact that SO requests are not received daily, or even weekly or monthly. I see no way to preclude release other than biting the bullet and assigning the personnel required to void the declassification stamp.

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SIAI

\* I understand from [ ] that, as a test, [ ] submitted a request for the SO reports to [ ] FOI Officer for NFAC. It is interesting to point out that if this had been a legitimate FOI request, under EO 12065 we would have considerable difficulty in avoiding release of the document since it was unclassified at the time of the request.

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REFERENCES: Log Note, 1 Dec 78  
Note to Betsy, 1 Dec 78  
Log Notes of 28 Jun 79, and 2 Jul 79 (three on one page)

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